

WEST VIRGINIA BROADBAND DEPLOYMENT COUNCIL

Wednesday, May 19, 2010 @ 9:00 a.m.

The meeting of the West Virginia Broadband Deployment Council was held in Building 6, Room 6A on Wednesday, May 19, 2010, at 9:00 a.m.

The following members participated:

Travis Mollohan
Kelley Goes
Mike Friloux
Michael Kelemen
Elaine Harris (via phone for ½ the meeting)
Dr. Jan Fox (via phone)
Tony Sereda (via phone)
Kyle Schafer
Jimmy Gianato

Additional participants:

Andrea Rayl
John Baisden (via phone)
Brandy Messer (via phone)
Jim Martin
Mark Polen
Andy Feeney
Brenda Williams
Vicki Allen
Jonathan Cauldwell (via phone)
Eric Eyre
Senator Bob Williams

After a quorum was established, Chair Goes welcomed the Council and called the meeting to order.

Business

Chair Goes asked for the approval of the minutes from the March meeting of the Broadband Deployment Council. The Council approved the minutes with no objection.

Other Business

Chair Goes asked for the Council's thoughts on bringing Kimball in for an assessment of what we need from them since the changes in the broadband landscape in terms of mapping and deployment.

Chair Goes opened the Council for discussion of what issues the Council should take up. Reports on state agency broadband possession and usage will be updated in the fall, which should give the state an idea of what demand looks like and what institutions and entities are using broadband.

Chair Goes asked that the Council refocus its mission to areas/issues where no one is looking or discussing. The Council needs to get back to looking at the pockets of white space where, in spite of the changes in broadband that have already been made, that they are still looking at either no broadband or dial-up. These areas are getting less attention because it is easier to look at the spaces where broadband is going. We also need to look at demand building side of the equation.

Mike Friloux stated that it would be helpful if the Council got a timeline from Kimball in terms of mapping communities to make sure we are still on track with the original charter of the Council. This timeline may help with looking at ways to stimulate providers to go to those communities where there is going to be no service.

Chair Goes said that she would check on binging in someone from the geological survey to update the Council on the stimulus grant they were awarded in the fall and the progress they have made so far.

Chair Goes stated that the Council needs to look at how the Council originally defined Broadband to see if it needs updated. This discussion led to the formation of the "Definition of Broadband Sub-Committee" which consists of:

Mike Friloux

Elaine Harris

Michael Kelemen

Kelley Goes

Chair Goes suggested that the Council reach out to the Consumer Advocate at the Public Service Commission. The Consumer Advocate along with the Council could meld expertise to reach those very last mile consumers.

Dr. Fox asked several questions - Do we have a list of how we have impacted communities so far, have we prioritized a list of locations where greatest impact will be, is the 5 million awarded annually or was it a onetime payment and has it been spent yet? Chair Goes answered Dr. Fox's questions as such- the award was a onetime payment, but the money has not yet been spent, the broadband landscape has changed dramatically, we do not have a priority list yet, but the mapping should help us form that list.

Chair Goes also formed the "Demand Building Sub-Committee" which consists of:

Kyle Schafer

Travis Mollohan

Kelley Goes

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Adjournment

The next meeting will be noticed for June 9, 2010, at 9:00 a.m. The meeting location, call-in number and agenda will be provided prior to the meeting.

With no other business, the meeting adjourned at 9:38 a.m.